

Message Text

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SUBJECT: JUNE 27 PRESS ROUNDUP

1. GEORGE C. WILSON IN JUNE 27 WASHINGTON POST FRONT-PAGE PROFILE SAID DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN'S INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WHICH HE HELPED PERFECT AS SCIENTIST-MANAGER AT LIVERMORE RADIATION LABORATORY FROM 1952 TO 1960, IS DRIVING HIM TO CONTROL THEM. WILSON SAID BROWN WAS CARTER'S "MOST INFLUENTIAL ADVISER" ON PROPOSAL PUT BEFORE SOVIETS AT SALT TWO. WILSON SAID "BROWN FERVENTLY BELIEVES THAT BOTH U.S. AND SOVIET UNION HAVE FAR TOO MUCH NUCLEAR POWER FOR THEIR OWN GOOD. HE IS PUSHING FOR BIG REDUCTIONS IN U.S. AND SOVIET NUCLEAR ARSENALS, NOT JUST RATIFICATION OF CURRENT CEILINGS WHICH HE BELIEVES ARE TOO HIGH. HE BELIEVES JUST AS FERVENTLY THAT SOONER OR LATER UNCLASSIFIED

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SOVIET LEADERS WILL CONCLUDE IT IS IN THEIR INTEREST TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE DOES NOT EXPECT SOVIETS TO ACCEPT BY OCTOBER COMPREHENSIVE REDUCTIONS RECOMMENDED TO THEM IN MARCH. SOVIET LEADERS, IN BROWN'S VIEW, WILL NEED MORE TIME TO DIGEST IDEA OF DEEP CUTS IN LAND-BASED MISSILE FORCE THEY RECENTLY DEPLOYED. 'IN LONG RUN,' BROWN HAS SAID, 'PROGNOSIS IS FAVORABLE. WHAT HAPPENS BETWEEN NOW AND LONG RUN IS ISSUE ... WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO GO ON NOW AND CONTINUE DIALOGUE.' DEFENSE SECRETARY HAS MADE CLEAR IN HIS FIRST

FIVE MONTHS OF OFFICE THAT HE IS NOT AVERSE TO PRESSURING SOVIETS TO SIGN AN ARMS AGREEMENT BY DEPLOYING NEW WEAPONS. THIS IS SAME BARGAINING CHIP STRATEGY USED BY FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER IN HIS APPROACH TO DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS."

2. EVANS AND NOVAK IN JUNE 25 WASHINGTON POST CHARGED THAT "ALTHOUGH ITS TRUE PURPOSE IS PARTIALLY CONCEALED BY BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FROM BOTH LIBERALS AND CONSERVATIVES, AMENDMENT EXPECTED TO GET OVERWHELMING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL IS AIMED DIRECTLY AT CURTAILING NEGOTIATING FREEDOM OF PAUL C. WARNKE, CONTROVERSIAL DIRECTOR OF ACDA. SO STRONG IS COALITION BACKING AMENDMENT THAT WARNKE AND HIS AIDES SHIED AWAY FROM LOBBYING TO DEFEAT MOVE AGAINST HIM. UNDERLYING THRUST OF AMENDMENT -- PASSED IN BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE WITH STRONG LIBERAL SUPPORT -- IS CLEAR: IT SIGNALS WARNKE THAT WITH DETENTE SLIPPING AWAY AND WITH PAST SOVIET EFFORTS TO CHEAT ON ARMS AGREEMENTS CLEARLY ON RECORD, CONGRESS NOW INSISTS THAT NEXT ARMS AGREEMENT MUST BE ADEQUATELY 'VERIFIABLE' -- IMMUNIZED AGAINST CHEATING -- BEFORE SENATE VOTES TREATY UP OR DOWN. IRONICALLY, WARNKE AND HIS ACDA AIDES HELPED TRIGGER VERIFICATION CONCERN IN CONGRESS BY ABOLISHING ACDA'S UNCLASSIFIED

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VERIFICATION AND ANALYSIS BUREAU. WARNKE SCATTERED ITS FUNCTIONS AND PERSONNEL TO ACDA'S OTHER BUREAUS, SUCH AS BUREAU OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS. WARNKE ALSO FIRED LONG-TIME ACDA VERIFICATION CONSULTANT AMROM KATZ, WHO HEADED VERIFICATION BUREAU UNTIL LAST FALL. KATZ AND OTHER VERIFICATION SPECIALISTS ARE HIGHLY REGARDED BY WEAPONS SPECIALISTS, PARTICULARLY DEFENSE-ORIENTED SENATORS, MANY OF WHOM WERE AMONG 40 VOTES CAST AGAINST CONFIRMING WARNKE AS CHIEF NEGOTIATOR IN STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS. EXPLAINING ABOLITION OF VERIFICATION BUREAU, ACDA SAID IT HAD CAUSED 'BUREAUCRATIC GAP' INSIDE ACDA. BUT WARNKE CRITICS ARE CONVINCED THAT EFFECT OF REORGANIZATION IS TO DOWNGRADE VERIFICATION, THUS GIVING WARNKE WIDER LATITUDE TO NEGOTIATE NEW ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT. AMENDMENT IS HEDGE AGAINST THIS.... TWO OTHER AMENDMENTS LIKELY TO BE APPROVED ALSO CURTAIL WARNKE'S POWER. ONE LIMITS HIS RIGHT TO HIRE SUPERGRADE, CIVIL SERVICE-EXEMPT OFFICIALS; OTHER REJECTS ACDA'S BID TO CONTROL ITS OWN TOP-SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCES, NOW FUNCTION OF ERDA."

3. WASHINGTON POST ON JUNE 26 QUOTED REP. HENRY S. REUSS AS SAYING CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS PROMOTING ARMS SALES ABROAD BY LENDING MONEY TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AT BARGAIN RATES. REUSS SAID TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S FEDERAL FINANCING BANK PROVIDES "EASY FINANCING" FOR ARMS PURCHASES AND IS PUTTING U.S. BORROWERS "AT COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE." HE SAID AT LEAST 14 COUNTRIES RECEIVING SUCH LOANS ARE

MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS THAT HAVE VIOLATED HUMAN RIGHTS OF THEIR CITIZENS. REUSS SAID HE WROTE DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN RECOMMENDING THAT THIS "PROMOTIONAL FINANCING OF ARMS SALES" BE STOPPED TO CONFORM TO PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCED POLICY OF CURBING ARMS TRAFFICKING.

4. DAVID BINDER IN JUNE 26 NEW YORK TIMES SAID PRESIDENT WILL PROPOSE SALES OF 115 MILLION DOLLAR IN ARMS TO ISRAEL "IN MOVE THAT HAS STRONG POLITICAL OVERTONES."
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BINDER SAID CARTER'S RECOMMENDATION "COMES AT TIME WHEN HE HAS COME UNDER HEAVY CRITICISM FROM ISRAELI LEADERS AND AMERICAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL." HE QUOTED ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAYING THAT PROPOSAL "WAS NOT MEANT TO APPEASE CRITICS," BUT WAS LOGICAL EXTENSION OF MONDALE'S JUNE 17 STATEMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO THAT ADMINISTRATION WOULD NOT "USE OUR MILITARY AID AS PRESSURE ON ISRAEL." OFFICIALS SAID NEW PROPOSAL, WHICH RESPONDS TO REQUEST MADE BY ISRAEL LAST DECEMBER, WAS INTENDED TO BUILD CONFIDENCE AND INCREASE MOMENTUM FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT.

5. HENRY L. TREWHITT IN JUNE 27 BALTIMORE SUN SAID "WITH MORE THAN THREE MONTHS TO GO, CARTER ADMINISTRATION NO LONGER HOPES FOR NEW SOVIET-AMERICAN AGREEMENT TO LIMIT NUCLEAR ARMS BEFORE CURRENT AGREEMENT EXPIRES OCT. 2." AN ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL FAMILIAR WITH DISCUSSIONS SAYS NEW TREATY IS UNFORESEEN BEFORE END OF YEAR -- IF THEN, TREWHITT REPORTED. TREWHITT SAID OFFICIAL TOLD HIM "I THINK WE'LL GET ANOTHER TREATY. I THINK WE CAN NAIL DOWN SOMETHING THAT SATISFIES NEEDS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS. BUT IT WILL TAKE SOME DOING AND IT WON'T COME EASILY." SUN CORRESPONDENT QUOTED OFFICIAL FAMILIAR WITH U.S. PLANNING AS SAYING CONFIDENTLY THAT CARTER WILL REMAIN STEADFAST REGARDING "ANYTHING HAVING TO DO WITH NATIONAL SECURITY." DEFENSE-ORIENTED ANALYSTS ARE SKEPTICAL, TREWHITT ADDED. WHAT IS CERTAIN, HE CONTINUED, IS THAT VANCE AND GROMYKO "HAVE MADE LITTLE PROGRESS ON CENTRAL ISSUES."

6. WALTER PINCUS IN JUNE 25 WASHINGTON POST SAID PENTAGON PLANNERS HAD HOPED TO KEEP SECRET FROM PUBLIC AND SOVIET UNION PRODUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEUTRON ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEADS AND ARTILLERY PROJECTILES UNTIL THEY WERE GIVEN TO U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE. HE SAID DEFENSE AIDES
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INDICATED "SOME ANGER THAT OFFICIALS FROM ERDA UNILATERALLY DECLASSIFIED FACT THAT 56-MILE RANGE LANCE WARHEAD, FOR WHICH THEY SOUGHT FISCAL 1978 PRODUCTION MONEY, WAS OF NEW ENHANCED RADIATION VARIETY." PENTAGON OFFICIALS, HE SAID,

"STRONG DEFENDED" NEUTRON RADIATION CONCEPT AS WAY TO TURN TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOW IN EUROPE INTO "MORE CREDIBLE DETERRENTS."

7. IN JUNE 27 EDITORIAL, WASHINGTON POST SAID FROM ARMS CONTROL PERSPECTIVE, PRODUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEUTRON WARHEADS "WOULD FLY IN FACE OF ADMINISTRATION'S BROAD EFFORT TO PERSUADE OTHER NATIONS TO FOREGO NUCLEAR WEAPONS ESPECIALLY TACTICAL ONES." POST SAID CONGRESS COULD DO PRESIDENT AND COUNTRY FAVOR BY KNOCKING FUNDS FOR NEUTRON BOMB PRODUCTION OUT OF ERDA BUDGET.

8. WASHINGTON POST ON JUNE 25 SAID ENOUGH WEAPONS-GRADE URANIUM TO MAKE ALMOST 20 ATOMIC BOMBS IS MISSING FROM FACTORY IN APOLLO, PENNSYLVANIA, THAT MAKES NUCLEAR FUEL FOR ATOMIC-POWERED SUBMARINES. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SOURCES SAID THAT NONE OF MISSING URANIUM IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN STOLEN BY TERRORISTS OR COUNTRIES WANTING TO MAKE WEAPONS. POST QUOTED NRC SOURCE AS SAYING "WE THINK ALL MISSING URANIUM WAS LOST THROUGH LEAKY PIPES, SLOPPY ACCOUNTING METHODS AND BAD SCRAP AND RECYCLING PROCEDURES. WE DO NOT THINK ANY URANIUM WAS DIVERTED OUT OF PLANT FOR WEAPONS PURPOSES." LOST URANIUM SITUATION DISCOVERED AS RESULT OF EIGHT INSPECTIONS OF PLANT BY NRC STAFF. WHILE FIGURE OF 280 POUNDS OF URANIUM STANDS OUT AS MISSING IN LEAKED NRC INTERNAL DOCUMENT, TOTAL URANIUM MISSING AT APOLLO IS UNDERSTOOD TO BE MORE THAN THAT, POST SAID. PRECISE TOTAL OF LOST URANIUM IS SECRET, POST ADDED.

9. NEW YORK TIMES ON JUNE 25 REPORTED FROM PARIS ON SECRETARY VANCE'S MEETING WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT. ACKNOWLEDGED UNCLASSIFIED

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EDGING 'TROUBLE SPOTS' OVER HUMAN RIGHTS AND SALT, VANCE SAID "DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US REMAIN SUBSTANTIAL" ON ARMS QUESTION, TIMES REPORTED. VANCE SAID HIS RECENT GENEVA MEETING WITH GROMYKO BROUGHT "SOME PROGRESS ON GENERAL FRAMEWORK" BUT "VERY SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCES REMAIN ON NUMBER OF ITEMS AND WHERE THEY WILL FIT INTO FRAMEWORK." PREVIOUSLY, TIMES NOTED, AMERICAN SPOKESMEN HAD REFERRED ONLY TO "PROGRESS" IN SALT, WHILE BREZHNEV HAD SAID THERE HAD BEEN NONE. BUT VANCE ALSO TOOK CARE TO LIST WHAT HE CALLED "POSITIVE AREAS." TIMES SAID THESE INCLUDED CONTINUING TALKS ON COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY, WHICH BRITAIN IS ABOUT TO JOIN; TALKS ON REDUCING ARMS IN INDIAN OCEAN; RECENTLY SIGNED AGREEMENT BANNING ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES FOR MILITARY PURPOSES, AND UPCOMING TALKS ON TREATY TO BAN CHEMICAL WARFARE.

10. DREW MIDDLETON IN JUNE 25 NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED ON ARTICLE IN COMMENTARY MAGAZINE BY DR. RICHARD PIPES OF

HARVARD UNIVERSITY WHO HEADED "TEAM B" OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY BOARD. PIPES SAID SOVIET UNION'S STRATEGIC NUCLEAR DOCTRINE SEEKS VICTORY RATHER THAN SUFFICIENCY, AND OFFENSIVE, PERHAPS PRE-EMPTIVE, OPERATIONS RATHER THAN RETALIATION. MIDDLETON SAID PIPES ASSERTS THAT AMERICAN NEGOTIATORS IN SALT NEGOTIATIONS MISS POINT AS LONG AS THEY CONCENTRATE ON NUMBERS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. PIPES, HE SAID, IS "HIGHLY CRITICAL OF PREVALENT U.S. DOCTRINE THAT CONTENDS THAT NUCLEAR WAR WOULD BE SO DESTRUCTIVE THAT IT WOULD LEAVE NO WINNER. SOVIET DOCTRINE, HE ARGUES, EMPHASIZES WINNING NUCLEAR WAR AND DESTRUCTION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. ARTICLE IS EXPECTED TO REVIVE DEBATE WITHIN AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY OVER SOVIET STRATEGIC CAPABILITIES AND INTENTIONS."

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11. WASHINGTON STAR ON JUNE 26 REPORTED THAT SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD, IN LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER, SAID U.S. OUGHT TO "GO VERY SLOW" IN DEVELOPING B-1 BOMBER BECAUSE EXPANDING PRODUCTION WOULD MEAN FOREGOING MANY UNMET PUBLIC NEEDS. PRESIDENT IS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE BY THURSDAY HIS DECISION ON WHETHER TO EXPAND OR SCRAP B-1 PROGRAM, STAR SAID.

12. DAVID BINDER IN NEW YORK TIMES NEWS ANALYSIS SAID ONE PERCEPTION CARTER AND BREZHNEV APPEAR TO SHARE "IS ONE OF 'SURPRISE' -- MR. CARTER'S WORD -- THAT DEGREE OF SORRENCE HAS DEVELOPED BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON." BINDER SAID THREE WHITE HOUSE ADVISERS CONTEND THAT "TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE MOVING ALONG REASONABLY WELL IN NEGOTIATIONS TO BAN ALL SOVIET AND AMERICAN NUCLEAR TESTS AND TALKS ON FURTHER STEPS TO CURB SPREAD IN WORLD OF NUCLEAR WEAPON-MAKING CAPABILITY. THEY NOTE ALSO THAT PAUL C. WARNKE, PRESIDENT'S CHIEF DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATOR, IS IN MOSCOW TO DISCUSS MEASURES FOR DEMILITARIZING INDIAN OCEAN. THERE IS ALSO APPARENT WISH ON PARTS OF BOTH MR. CARTER AND MR. BREZHNEV TO MEET, PERHAPS LATER IN YEAR -- POSSIBLY WITHOUT FIXED AGENDA, PROBABLY WITHOUT FANFARE, AND WITHOUT ANY PRESSURE TO ACHIEVE ANYTHING SPECIFIC ON NEW STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TREATY." BINDER SAID MEETINGS NIXON AND FORD HAD WITH BREZHNEV "WERE KEYED TO CONCLUSION OF TREATIES AND OTHER MAJOR AGREEMENTS. MR. CARTER'S SHARPLY DIFFERING APPROACH TO DEALINGS WITH SOVIET UNION ALSO PROMPTS HIS ADVISERS TO ARGUE THAT MR. BREZHNEV OBVIOUSLY NEEDS TIME TO ADJUST TO CARTER ADMINISTRATION."

13. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED REUTER DISPATCH FROM MOSCOW QUOTING PRAVDA AS CALLING SENATOR JACKSON "AN ARCHENEMY OF DETENTE." PRAVDA SAID SALT TWO HAD SHOWN NO APPARENT PROGRESS BECAUSE OF AMERICAN ATTEMPT TO SECURE UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE AND SENATOR JACKSON WAS CLEARLY TRYING TO KEEP

WASHINGTON ON THIS PATH. PRAVDA SAID "RECENTLY GROUP OF
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SENATORS -- INCLUDING HIM -- DRAFTED LAW OBLIGING GOVERN-
MENT TO INFORM CONGRESS OF MINUTEST DETAILS OF COURSE OF
STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS. IF BILL IS ACCEPTED,
SENATOR WOULD BE LEGALLY ENTITLED TO TAKE AN INVISIBLE
SEAT AT NEGOTIATING TABLE." VANCE

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